Never Again!, Delayed publication of 7/31/94
John Newman's Oswald/CIA 201 file book
Archives JFK assassination records, conditions of working in

Mrs. Ann(a) Marie Kuhns-Walko (202/574-0586) phoned me yesterday afternoon, as she had once before, some time ago. She was seeking help in being able to get a certified copy from the Archives of a Specter memo of 3/64 on his interview with the autopsy doctors. The people she has been dealing with at the Archives not only told her that they could not locate it, they said or inferred that the published copy (she may not have told them that I had published it) could be a fake, a forgery.

She also told me that when she was there the day of some special releases and a CBS reporter was asking her for help - I gather than all except her were of the media - the Archives people were apprehensive of it and questioned her about it.

She seems to have been doing some fine work there and for quite a period of time. I believe she is married to a man stationed at Andrews Air Force base. She has grown children. She is the source of the valuable HSCA records of which Gary Aguillar sent me copies I used as the basis for the Afterword in NEVER AGAIN! (There is at least one record, of sketches, Gary did not send me she said she will.)

When I got Post Mortem and read the record I had printed in facsimile I told her that the Archives has a listing of the commission's records, that those that are identified as CDs were the records given to the Commission by executive-branch agencies and that the Commission's internal records have subject identification of which I told her a few I remembered. I told her that the record in which she as interested probably came from a JFK autopsy file and that it was broken down and had numbered sections. I told her I had used some from the 4-1 breakdown of that file. As we talked I remembered that I have an incomplete file of Specter's memos in my office. I got them and that record is from that 4-1 file so she can now get that certified copy.

One new man in particular at that archive had been giving her a particularly tough time. At one point she lost her temper and shouted at him. As a result she said they put her on what they referred to as "on notice," the inference I got from it is being denied access. We had some discussion of that and I made a few suggestions to her about it.

In the course of this long conversation she told me that she had broken relations with John Newman after giving him extensive help in the form of copies and of her notes on her work in the newly-released CIA records, particularly of the Oswald 201 file, and that it had come back to her that he has been referring to that as his own work. She said she charges nothing for the help she gives others but does not like having others claim her work as their own.

In the course of talking about this and about Newman's book she told me he had given her a copy of the Carroll & Graf notice of its publication in March, 1995.

When I pressed Richard Gallen for information on when NEVER AGAIN! will be published, it having become apparent that it will not be this September, as he had promised me, he wrote me indignantly telling me that it will be published this coming March.

He is co-publishing with C & G. He did not give me th assurance I sought on it not being gutted as Case Open was. I wrote and asked for it and he did not reply. Then about 10 days ago Herman Graf phoned me to explain that either two books by the same author or by the same publisher on any one subject simply will not be stocked by the major chains and that is why NEVER AGAIN! was again delayed, becase Case Open will still be on sale then. (I wrote him the next day, which will date that call.)

That was the first call I had from him. We had spoken once before when Gallen had him connected to our call when we agred on their publishing Case Open, when Graf had promised it would be out this past February. He did not say why he called and I did not ask. I figured it could have been because Gallen was too embarrassed to respond and that with the passing of time he had gotten Graf to or that it was in response to a strong letter of inherent criticism Dave Wrone wrote Gallen.

In any event, with this newest promise to me and with the annbuncement of the publication of Newman's book both in March, 1995, it would mean that the same publisher will have two books on the same subject on sale at the same time. And as I understood Graf's call to mean, the major chains will not stock both.

The clear inference is that I have been lied to again. When he and Gallen know I am not now in a position to make any other effort with it and when it could easily have been published by July of last year, when it would have preceded the flood of assassinations books for the 30th anniversary, all of which were bad and the biggest stinker of all was C & G's Killing the Truth. I was not even told that it was being delayed. And we had reached agreement on the editing. After I believed it would appear and we agreed on the editing, I was then told that it would be given to the copy editor. I had encouraged Gallen then to have it ready earlier, ~~rather a little later than~~ than when he told me it would be published this September, so that in the event of a news break it could be published to take advantage of it. He did not respond. When I said the same thing to Graf he agreed to have it ready for publishing in advance in the event of any such development. Whether or not he meant it, it is too soon for me to have any knowledge of whether or not they are doing that.

There are further complications. Livingstone's letters of several years ago that I have include his saying that C & G contracted for two books after High Trash 2. That means there is another such trash to be published. When he was here the week before the one just ended Walt Brown, who has a book for C & G also to publish, told me that they are doing another one by Livingstone. He confirmed what I'd heard, that they had found High Trash 2 very profitable. He said, as I'd suspected, that Killing the Truth

had had disapppinting dales. But that they are nonetheless proceding with Livingstone's next book.

Then there is what is indicated by Publishers Weekly in its 5.3.93 issue when it quoted Kent Carroll, that Lifton is doing an Oswald book for them. due this year.

So, this one publisher has, in addition to the long-delayed NEVER AGAIN! books by Newman, Brown, Livingstone and Lifton- all supposedly on the JFK assassination. How they can publish all these books in the near future I do not see.

Mrs. K-W told me about being at the dedication at Dealey Plaza after John Connally died. She said that police and those who appeared to be federal agents removed all who displayed any sign of any kind. Their explanation was that Mrs. Connally alone had been given a permit and all others had to have her approval. Even signs of love for JFK were verbotten. She said there were cops all over the place, even mounted cops on the triple underpass and on roof tops, that pictures were taken of all there by more than the media, and that when she and her daughter lit a candle at about where JFK was when the fatal shot hit him they extinguihsed it and moved them away from that place. I saw no mention of any of this anyplace and heard nothing about it from anyone who was there.

She also told me tnat she found a picture in the new releases that seems to show Oswald leaving the building where Roger Craig had said when Craig said he had gotten into a station wagon and if I remember correctly, she said she had had that picture enlarged.

In the CIA records she has gone over is one or are those reflecting that when Richard Nixon was vice president he had gotten $2,500,000 and had transferred that to a New York bank.

She has made about 2,300 copies from the CIA-Oswald 201 files. I asked her about making copies for me, not for my writing, and for my deposit at Hood. She will think about it.

She has copies of some of LBJ's disclosed phone conversation transcripts and a list of them all she will copy and send me. I told her I will see to it that both Wrone and McKnight get copies because I know both want them.

When she was working in Miami she as menaced, followed and threatened by a man who did not hide it and in fact spoke to her, giving her threats. A friend who took a picture of her has him in it, or them. She had a special interest in Paul Bethell and asked me if I knew he was dead.

I told her she need not respond because she had said that the lawyer for whom she is working asked her to keep in confidential, but that Brad Kizzia, who represents Gary Shaw and Dr. VCrenshaw in their suit against JAMA et al has a copy of the ms. of NEVER AGAIN! She did not respond but I think she may be working for him. I told her that she and they are welcome to anything I have. HW